

Professional Hearing Health Centers

Camelot Tower, 1415 E. State St., A1
Rockford, IL 61104
(815) 964-3131

Lincolnway Plaza, 111 S. Lincolnway, (Rt. 31) Ste. 9
N. Aurora, IL 60542
(630) 844-6800

8307500 OCT 19 P212
Market St., Ste. 9
Elgin, IL 60123
(847) 741-2818

5400 W. Elm St., Ste. 205 (Rt. 120)
McHenry, IL 60050
(815) 344-6200

Lower Level of Brandt Clinic, Corners of Galena & Walnut
Freeport, IL 61032
(815) 233-2535

705 W. Church St. (Rt. 34)
Sandwich, IL 60548
(815) 786-6327

860 Biester Dr., Ste. 206A
Belvidere, IL 61008
(815) 547-0202

Avanti Square, 2524 W. Farrelly Ave., Ste. F
Peoria, IL 61615
(309) 681-8500

803 - 21st. St., Ste. B
Peru, IL 61354
(815) 223-1100

October 9, 2000

Honorable Donna Shalala
Secretary of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Room 615 F
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Secretary Shalala,

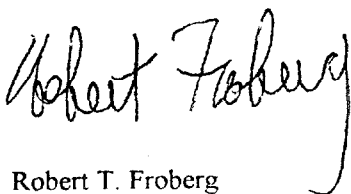
The Food and Drug Administration may shortly propose changes to the way hearing aids are sold and that could put me out of business and impede access to hearing care services for millions of our nation's seniors.

I am a board certified, state licensed hearing instrument specialist. For over 9 years, I have provided hearing health care services to hundreds of our state's hearing impaired.

Presently, all three members of the hearing health care delivery team (hearing aid specialists, audiologists and physicians) are recognized as qualified entry points into the hearing health care delivery system. The rule FDA is advocating would allow audiologists--without any justification-- to install themselves as the sole entry point into hearing health care by allowing states to require tests that only audiologists conduct prior to purchase of a hearing aid.

Allowing audiologists an exclusive role in the hearing aid delivery system without unqualified medical data evidencing that such role is necessary for public health reasons, would severely undermine public health and safety and would increase costs to the hearing impaired.

Sincerely,



Robert T. Froberg
A.S.B.C., N.B.C.
Hearing Instrument Specialist

93N 0372

C4733



Professional Hearing Health Centers

75 Market Street, Suite 9
Elgin, IL 60123

Est. 1952

